[30th October 1931

General

Instructions regarding alleged breakdown of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

*225 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government ever intimated to their subordinate authorities that the Gandhi-Irwin Pact has been broken; and

(b) whether any instructions were conveyed by the Government to district officers to consider the Congress as enemies of the Government?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know, Sir, if the Government say that they have not given any instructions to the Police, whether they are aware of the recent happenings in Madura and one or two other places which justify the inference on the part of the people that the Government have been responsible for breaking the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in this province?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"A number of questions have been asked on this subject, and we have given replies to them, and perhaps they will come up here to-morrow or the day after. They will show that the Pact has been observed in this province."

Alleged circular by the District Magistrate, Chittoor, for unfettered use of section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in cases of picketing.

* 226 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Magistrate of Chittoor has asked the Sub-Magistrates in the Chittoor district, to use section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, freely in cases of picketing;

(b) whether he has instructed them, by circular or otherwise, to treat picketing by Congress people as a political offence to be crushed, whenever possible, by whatever means; and

(c) whether the District Superintendent of Police of Chittoor has been authorized by the District Magistrate to approach the Sub-Magistrates direct and get orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, against picketers?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) No.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"May I know if the Government are aware that the District Magistrate of Chittoor circularised to his subordinates that the Gandhi-Irwin Pact had been broken and that the Government officers were at liberty to deal with Congressmen as they pleased?"